THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) to (d) The evaluation of the bid for the equipment to be supplied for the Koyna Project Stage-IV was carried out by Central electricity Authority (CEA); the Consultants and M/s. SGI Consulting Engineer, the Review Consultants. Though the CEA evaluated the offer of BHEL-GE, Canada as the lowest, the Review Consultants held that the tender submitted by M/s. BHEL-GE, Canada was non-responsive.

The Government of Maharashtra considered the bids and found the offer of M/s. BHEL-GE, Canada to be non-responsive and awarded the contract for the supply of equipment to lowest responsive bidder.

Reduction in Transmission and Distribution Losses

2819. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Pollution Control Board has suggested a technique by which as much as 12,000 MW additional power can be generated from the existing plants by reducing transmission and distribution losses;

(b) whether with an investment of Rs. 12,000 crore, 12,000 MW more power could be generated from the plants that are already functioning as indicated in the CPCB study;

(c) whether Government have studied the observations made;

(d) if so, whether the percentage of power transmission and distribution loss in India is 23-24% and this is higher than the that in Korea, Taiwan, Japan and US; and

(e) if so, what are the measures being considered by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) to (c) The Central Pollution Control Board in their report captioned "PRE-REQUISITES FOR POLLUTION CONTROL IN POWER GENERATION PLANTS AND AUTOMOBILIES IN URBAN AREAS" has indicated that with an investment of Rs. 12400 crores, it may be possible to generate as much as 12000 MW of additional power by optimizing the existing power plants. The report only mentions that 1% saving in transmission and distribution loss would be equivalent to 380 MW and pottential for saving of power by bringing down transmission and distribution losses in the country is around 4000 MW. However, no technique for reduction of T&D losses has been suggested in the report.

(d) The percentage of transmission and distribution losses in India is around 22% and is higher than that in Korea, Taiwan, Japan and United States.

(e) Most of transmission and distribution losses occur in the distribution phase. Distribution being a state subject, gudelines for reducing T&D losses have been issued to Power Utilities for taking appropriate action in the matter These guidelines, *inter-alia*, include conducting of energy audit for identifying system elements responsible for higher losses, formulation of System Improvement schemes to strengthen the transmission and distribution system, installation of capacitors to improve voltage profile, installation of meter inside tamper proof boxes, setting up of vigilance squades to detect cases of theft of energy and introduction of Incentive Scheme since 1987-88 for providing incentives to the State Electricity Boards/ electricity Departments and their Divisions to bring about reduction in transmission and distribution losses in their system.

Theft of energy has been made a cognizable offence under the amended provisions of Section-39 of Indian Electricity Act, 1910.